

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (previously presented) A protective cover for lengths of material used in environments in which said lengths of material are subjected to abrasion, chemicals, or weather extremes, said protective cover comprising a sleeve surrounding said length of material, said sleeve having open ends and formed of a fabric made substantially of high performance yarns having a tensile modulus equal to or greater than 150 grams/denier and a tenacity equal to or greater than 7 grams/denier so that the protective cover is abrasion-resistant, cut-resistant, and tear-resistant.
2. (previously presented) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said fabric is formed from at least 70 percent high performance yarns.
3. (original) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said fabric has a weight of between about 5 and 8 ounces per square yard.
4. (original) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said fabric is resistant to petroleum-based products.
5. (previously presented) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said high performance yarns are formed from polymers selected from the group consisting of long chain polyethylenes, high strength aramids, liquid crystal polymers, and combinations thereof.
6. (previously presented) The protective cover of Claim 5 wherein said high performance yarns are about 400 to 1000 denier.
7. (original) The protective cover of Claim 6 wherein said fabric has a warp and fill density of between about 30 and 36 ends per inch.

8. (original) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said sleeve is formed as an elongated sheet having opposed longitudinal edges, said opposed longitudinal edges including means releasably attaching said opposed longitudinal edges together around the length of said material.

9. (previously presented) The protective cover of Claim 8 wherein said means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges comprises hook and loop material.

10. (original) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said sleeve is formed as a plurality of bands, each band comprising a short length of said fabric, said bands being spaced apart along the length of said material.

11. (original) The protective cover of Claim 10 wherein each of said bands is formed as a short length of fabric having opposed longitudinal edges, said opposed longitudinal edges including means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges together around the length of said material.

12. (previously presented) The protective cover of Claim 11 wherein said means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges comprises hook and loop material.

13. (original) The protective cover of Claim 1 further including a hood formed of the same fabric as said sleeve and fastened to at least one end of said sleeve for protecting an exposed end of said length of material.

14-26. (canceled)

27. (previously presented) An abrasion-resistant, cut-resistant, and tear-resistant protective cover system, comprising:

- (a) a length of material that must be periodically moved or pulled across abrasive surfaces; and

(b) a protective sleeve having open ends and surrounding said length of material and formed from a fabric made substantially of high performance yarns having a tensile modulus equal to or greater than 150 grams/denier and a tenacity equal to or greater than 7 grams/denier, wherein said protective sleeve is abrasion-resistant, cut-resistant, and tear-resistant.

28. (previously presented) The system of Claim 27 wherein said fabric is formed from at least 70 percent high performance yarns.

29. (original) The system of Claim 27 wherein said fabric has a weight of between about 5 and 8 ounces per square yard.

30. (original) The system of Claim 27 wherein said fabric is resistant to petroleum-based products.

31. (previously presented) The system of Claim 27 wherein said high performance yarns are formed from polymers selected from the group consisting of long chain polyethylenes, high strength aramids, liquid crystal polymers, and combinations thereof.

32. (previously presented) The protective cover of Claim 31 wherein said high performance yarns are about 400 to 1000 denier.

33. (original) The system of Claim 32 wherein said fabric has a warp and fill density of between about 30 and 36 ends per inch.

34. (original) The system of Claim 27 wherein said sleeve is formed as an elongated sheet having opposed longitudinal edges, said opposed longitudinal edges including means for releasably attaching said opposed longitudinal edges together around the length of said material.

35. (original) The system of Claim 34 further including means for securing said open ends of the sleeve to said length of material.

36. (original) The system of Claim 27 wherein said sleeve is formed as a plurality of bands, each band comprising a short length of said fabric, said bands being spaced apart along the length of a material to be protected.

37. (original) The system of Claim 36 wherein each of said bands is formed as a short length of fabric having opposed longitudinal edges, said opposed longitudinal edges including means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges together around the length of a material to be protected.

38. (original) The system of Claim 37 wherein said means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges comprises hook and loop material.

39. (original) The system of Claim 27 further including a hood formed of the same fabric as said sleeve and fastened to at least one end of said sleeve for protecting an exposed end of said length of material.

40. (previously presented) An abrasion-resistant rope that must be periodically moved or pulled across abrasive surfaces comprising an outer protective layer formed substantially from high performance yarns having a tensile modulus equal to or greater than 150 grams/denier and a tenacity equal to or greater than 7 grams/denier so that the protective layer is abrasion-resistant, cut-resistant, and tear-resistant.